

**ENTERED**

April 20, 2022

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
BROWNSVILLE DIVISION**

ALEXIS BUENDIA,  
Plaintiff

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v.

Civil Action No. 1:22-cv-44

ATLAS CREDIT CO., INC.,  
Defendant

§  
§

**ORDER SETTING CONFERENCE**

1. Counsel shall appear for an initial pretrial conference on:

**August 16, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.**  
Before the Honorable Ignacio Torteya, III  
United States Magistrate Judge  
Second Floor Courtroom No. 1.  
United States Courthouse  
600 E. Harrison Street  
Brownsville, TX 78520

2. Within 15 days of receiving this Order, counsel must file a list of all entities that are financially interested in this litigation, including parent, subsidiary, and affiliated corporations as well as all known attorneys of record. When a group description is effective disclosure, an individual listing is not necessary. Underline the names of corporations with publicly traded securities. Counsel must promptly amend the list when parties are added or additional interested parties are identified.

3. The plaintiff(s) must serve the defendant(s) within 90 days of filing the complaint. The plaintiff's failure to file proof of service within that time may result in dismissal by the Court on its own initiative. *See FED. R. CIV. P. Rule 4(m).*

4. **At least 14 days before the conference, counsel must file a joint case management plan listing the identities and purposes of witnesses, sources and**

**types of documents, and other requirements for a prompt and inexpensive preparation of this case for disposition by motion or trial. See FED R. CIV. P. Rule 26(f). At least 7 days before the conference, counsel must file a joint proposed scheduling order for the Court's consideration.**

5. The parties shall agree on additional deadlines for completion of pretrial matters including all expert designation dates and discovery cut-offs as well as dates for exchanging of initial disclosures if they have not already been completed. By the conference, counsel will have interviewed their clients and read all relevant documents; readily available documents will have been exchanged at the plan meeting at the latest. The Court will set a schedule for initial preparation and may rule on motions pending or made at the conference.

6. Counsel in charge of a case must appear at all hearings or conferences. A motion to appear on behalf of the attorney-in-charge will be granted only upon showing of good cause, and only if the attorney to be substituted is familiar with the case and has authority to bind the client. The motion to appear must be ruled on in advance of the hearing or conference date. Counsel appearing at the conference must have authority to bind the client and must know the facts. Counsel must have discussed alternative dispute resolution with their clients and each other; at the conference, the Court will consider whether a method of ADR is suited to this case. The Court will enter a scheduling order and may rule on any pending motions at the conference.

7. The plaintiff(s), or the party removing this suit from state court, **SHALL SERVE THE OPPOSING PARTY OR PARTIES with copies of this Order Setting Conference.** The parties will be bound by the provisions contained in this Order, the papers mentioned in No. 4 above, and the dates set out in the scheduling order to be entered

in this case. Failure to comply with this order may result in sanctions, including dismissal of the action and assessment of expenses.

8. In recognition of the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 Virus, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas in general, and the Brownsville Division in particular, have entered orders adjusting the conduct of Court business. Please visit the Court's web site to ensure that you have the most current information available.<sup>1</sup> All counsel appearing before the Court must comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

**SIGNED** on this **20th** day of **April, 2022**, at Brownsville, Texas.



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**Ignacio Torteya, III**  
**United States Magistrate Judge**

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/> (containing general information and links); <https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/page/covid-19-general-and-special-orders> (containing special and general orders).